

**THE ROBERT T. STAFFORD  
DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY RELIEF ACT,  
AS AMENDED,  
42 U.S.C. 5121, et seq.**

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UNITED STATES CODE  
TITLE 42. THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
CHAPTER 68--DISASTER RELIEF  
SUBCHAPTER I--FINDINGS, DECLARATIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

**{101} 5121. Congressional findings and declarations**

(a) The Congress hereby finds and declares that--

(1) because disasters often cause loss of life, human suffering, loss of income, and property loss and damage; and

(2) because disasters often disrupt the normal functioning of governments and communities, and adversely affect individuals and families with great severity; special measures, designed to assist the efforts of the affected States in expediting the rendering of aid, assistance, and emergency services, and the reconstruction and rehabilitation of devastated areas, are necessary.

(b) It is the intent of the Congress, by this chapter, to provide an orderly and continuing means of assistance by the Federal Government to State and local governments in carrying out their responsibilities to alleviate the suffering and damage which result from such disasters by--

(1) revising and broadening the scope of existing disaster relief programs;

(2) encouraging the development of comprehensive disaster preparedness and assistance plans, programs, capabilities, and organizations by the States and by local governments;

(3) achieving greater coordination and responsiveness of disaster preparedness and relief programs;

(4) encouraging individuals, States, and local governments to protect themselves by obtaining insurance coverage to supplement or replace governmental assistance;

(5) encouraging hazard mitigation measures to reduce losses from disasters, including development of land use and construction regulations; and

(6) providing Federal assistance programs for both public and private losses sustained in disasters

(7) Repealed. Pub.L. 100-707, Title I, 103(a)(1), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4689

**{102} 5122. Definitions As used in this chapter--**

(1) Emergency--"Emergency" means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to

save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.

(2) Major disaster--"Major disaster" means any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, winddriven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this chapter to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

(3) "United States" means the fifty States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

(4) "State" means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

(5) "Governor" means the chief executive of any State.

(6) "Local government" means (A) any county, city, village, town, district, or other political subdivision of any State, any Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or Alaska Native village or organization, and (B) includes any rural community or unincorporated town or village or any other public entity for which an application for assistance is made by a State or political subdivision thereof.

(7) "Federal agency" means any department, independent establishment, Government corporation, or other agency of the executive branch of the Federal Government, including the United States Postal Service, but shall not include the American National Red Cross.

(8) Public facility--"Public facility" means the following facilities owned by a State or local government:

(A) Any flood control, navigation, irrigation, reclamation, public power, sewage treatment and collection, water supply and distribution, watershed development, or airport facility.

(B) Any non-Federal-aid street, road, or highway.

(C) Any other public building, structure, or system, including those used for educational, recreational, or cultural purposes.

(D) Any park.

(9) Private nonprofit facility--"Private nonprofit facility" means private nonprofit educational, utility, emergency, medical, rehabilitational, and temporary or permanent custodial care facilities (including those for the aged and disabled), other private nonprofit facilities which provide essential services of a governmental nature to the general public, and facilities on Indian reservations as defined by the President.

UNITED STATES CODE  
TITLE 42. THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
CHAPTER 68--DISASTER RELIEF  
SUBCHAPTER II--DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ASSISTANCE

**{201} 5131. Federal and State disaster preparedness program**

**(a) Utilization of services of other agencies**

The President is authorized to establish a program of disaster preparedness that utilizes services of all appropriate agencies and includes--

- (1)** preparation of disaster preparedness plans for mitigation, warning, emergency operations, rehabilitation, and recovery;
- (2)** training and exercises;
- (3)** postdisaster critiques and evaluations;
- (4)** annual review of programs;
- (5)** coordination of Federal, State, and local preparedness programs;
- (6)** application of science and technology;
- (7)** research.

**(b) Technical assistance for development of plans and programs**

The President shall provide technical assistance to the States in developing comprehensive plans and practicable programs for preparation against disasters, including hazard reduction, avoidance, and mitigation; for assistance to individuals, businesses, and State and local governments following such disasters; and for recovery of damaged or destroyed public and private facilities.

**(c) Grants to states for development of plans and programs**

Upon application by a State, the President is authorized to make grants, not to exceed in the aggregate to such State \$250,000, for the development of plans, programs, and capabilities for disaster preparedness and prevention. Such grants shall be applied for within one year from May 22, 1974. Any State desiring financial assistance under this section shall designate or create an agency to plan and administer such a disaster preparedness program, and shall, through such agency, submit a State plan to the President, which shall--

(1) set forth a comprehensive and detailed State program for preparation against and assistance following, emergencies and major disasters, including provisions for assistance to individuals, businesses, and local governments; and

(2) include provisions for appointment and training of appropriate staffs, formulation of necessary regulations and procedures and conduct of required exercises.

(d) Grants for improvement, maintenance, and updating of State plans

The President is authorized to make grants not to exceed 50 per centum of the cost of improving, maintaining and updating State disaster assistance plans, including evaluations of natural hazards and development of the programs and actions required to mitigate such hazards; except that no such grant shall exceed \$50,000 per annum to any State.

### **{202} 5132. Disaster warnings**

(a) Readiness of federal agencies to issue warnings to state and local officials

The President shall insure that all appropriate Federal agencies are prepared to issue warnings of disasters to State and local officials.

(b) Technical assistance to state and local governments for effective warnings

The President shall direct appropriate Federal agencies to provide technical assistance to State and local governments to insure that timely and effective disaster warning is provided.

(c) Warnings to governmental authorities and public endangered by disaster

The President is authorized to utilize or to make available to Federal, State, and local agencies the facilities of the civil defense communications system established and maintained pursuant to section 5196(c) of this title, or any other Federal communications system for the purpose of providing warning to governmental authorities and the civilian population in areas endangered by disasters.

(d) Agreements with commercial communications systems for use of facilities

The President is authorized to enter into agreements with the officers or agents of any private or commercial communications systems who volunteer the use of their systems on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis for the purpose of providing warning to governmental authorities and the civilian population endangered by disasters.



UNITED STATES CODE  
TITLE 42. THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
CHAPTER 68--DISASTER RELIEF

SUBCHAPTER III--MAJOR DISASTER AND EMERGENCY  
ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

**{301} 5141. Waiver of administrative conditions**

Any Federal agency charged with the administration of a Federal assistance program may, if so requested by the applicant State or local authorities, modify or waive, for a major disaster, such administrative conditions for assistance as would otherwise prevent the giving of assistance under such programs if the inability to meet such conditions is a result of the major disaster.

**5142. Repealed.**

Pub.L. 100-707, Title I, 105(a)(2), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691

**{302} 5143. Coordinating officers**

**(a) Appointment of Federal coordinating officer**

Immediately upon his declaration of a major disaster or emergency, the President shall appoint a Federal coordinating officer to operate in the affected area.

**(b) Functions of federal coordinating officer**

In order to effectuate the purposes of this chapter, the Federal coordinating officer, within the affected area, shall--

**(1)** make an initial appraisal of the types of relief most urgently needed;

**(2)** establish such field offices as he deems necessary and as are authorized by the President;

**(3)** coordinate the administration of relief, including activities of the State and local governments, the American National Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Mennonite Disaster Service, and other relief or disaster assistance organizations, which agree to operate under his advice or direction, except that nothing contained in this chapter shall limit or in any way affect the responsibilities of the American National Red Cross under the Act of January 5, 1905, as amended (33 Stat. 599) [36 U.S.C. 1 et seq.]; and

**(4)** take such other action, consistent with authority delegated to him by the President, and consistent with the provisions of this chapter, as he may deem necessary to assist local citizens and public officials in promptly obtaining assistance to which they are entitled.

(c) State coordinating officer

When the President determines assistance under this chapter is necessary, he shall request that the Governor of the affected State designate a State coordinating officer for the purpose of coordinating State and local disaster assistance efforts with those of the Federal Government.

**{303} 5144. Emergency support teams**

The President shall form emergency support teams of Federal personnel to be deployed in an area affected by a major disaster or emergency. Such emergency support teams shall assist the Federal coordinating officer in carrying out his responsibilities pursuant to this chapter. Upon request of the President, the head of any Federal agency is directed to detail to temporary duty with the emergency support teams on either a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, as is determined necessary by the President, such personnel within the administrative jurisdiction of the head of the Federal agency as the President may need or believe to be useful for carrying out the functions of the emergency support teams, each such detail to be without loss of seniority, pay, or other employee status.

**5145. Repealed.**

Pub.L. 100-707, Title I, 105(d), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691

**5146. Repealed.**

Pub.L. 100-707, Title I, 105(d), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4691

**{304} 5147. Reimbursement of federal agencies**

Federal agencies may be reimbursed for expenditures under this chapter from funds appropriated for the purposes of this chapter. Any funds received by Federal agencies as reimbursement for services or supplies furnished under the authority of this chapter shall be deposited to the credit of the appropriation or appropriations currently available for such services or supplies.

**{305} 5148. Nonliability of Federal Government**

The Federal Government shall not be liable for any claim based upon the exercise or performance of or the failure to exercise or perform a discretionary function or duty on the part of a Federal agency or an employee of the Federal Government in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

### **{306} 5149. Performance of services**

#### **(a) Utilization of services or facilities of state and local governments**

In carrying out the purposes of this chapter, any Federal agency is authorized to accept and utilize the services or facilities of any State or local government, or of any agency, office, or employee thereof, with the consent of such government.

(b) Appointment of temporary personnel, experts, and consultants; acquisition, rental, or hire of equipment, services, materials and supplies

In performing any services under this chapter, any Federal agency is authorized--

(1) to appoint and fix the compensation of such temporary personnel as may be necessary, without regard to the provisions of Title 5 governing appointments in competitive service;

(2) to employ experts and consultants in accordance with the provisions of section 3109 of such Title, without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such Title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates; and

(3) to incur obligations on behalf of the United States by contract or otherwise for the acquisition, rental, or hire of equipment, services, materials, and supplies for shipping, drayage, travel, and communications, and for the supervision and administration of such activities. Such obligations, including obligations arising out of the temporary employment of additional personnel, may be incurred by an agency in such amount as may be made available to it by the President.

### **{307} 5150. Use of local firms and individuals**

In the expenditure of Federal funds for debris clearance, distribution of supplies, reconstruction, and other major disaster or emergency assistance activities which may be carried out by contract or agreement with private organizations, firms, or individuals, preference shall be given, to the extent feasible and practicable, to those organizations, firms, and individuals residing or doing business primarily in the area affected by such major disaster or emergency. This section shall not be considered to restrict the use of Department of Defense resources in the provision of major disaster assistance under this chapter.

### **{308} 5151. Nondiscrimination in disaster assistance**

#### **(a) Regulations for equitable and impartial relief operations**

The President shall issue, and may alter and amend, such regulations as may be necessary for the guidance of personnel carrying out Federal assistance functions at the site of a major disaster or emergency. Such regulations shall include provisions for insuring that the distribution of supplies, the processing of applications, and other relief and assistance activities shall be accomplished in an

equitable and impartial manner, without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, or economic status.

**(b) Compliance with regulations as prerequisite to participation by other bodies in relief operations**

As a condition of participation in the distribution of assistance or supplies under this chapter or of receiving assistance under this chapter, governmental bodies and other organizations shall be required to comply with regulations relating to nondiscrimination promulgated by the President, and such other regulations applicable to activities within an area affected by a major disaster or emergency as he deems necessary for the effective coordination of relief efforts.

**{309} 5152. Use and coordination of relief organizations**

**(a)** In providing relief and assistance under this chapter, the President may utilize, with their consent, the personnel and facilities of the American National Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Mennonite Disaster Service, and other relief or disaster assistance organizations, in the distribution of medicine, food, supplies, or other items, and in the restoration, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of community services, housing and essential facilities, whenever the President finds that such utilization is necessary.

**(b)** The President is authorized to enter into agreements with the American National Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Mennonite Disaster Service, and other relief or disaster assistance organizations under which the disaster relief activities of such organizations may be coordinated by the Federal coordinating officer whenever such organizations are engaged in providing relief during and after a major disaster or emergency. Any such agreement shall include provisions assuring that use of Federal facilities, supplies, and services will be in compliance with regulations prohibiting duplication of benefits and guaranteeing nondiscrimination promulgated by the President under this chapter, and such other regulation as the President may require.

**{310} 5153. Priority to certain applications for public facility and public housing assistance**

**(a) Priority**

In the processing of applications for assistance, priority and immediate consideration shall be given by the head of the appropriate Federal agency, during such period as the President shall prescribe, to applications from public bodies situated in areas affected by major disasters under the following Acts:

**(1)** The United States Housing Act of 1937 [42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.] for the provision of low-income housing.

**(2)** Section 462 of Title 40 [Section 702 of the Housing Act of 1954, 42 U.S.C. 462] for assistance in public works planning.

(3) The Community Development Block Grant Program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 [42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.].

(4) Section 1926 of Title 7 [Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act of 1965, 7 U.S.C. 1926].

(5) The Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 [42 U.S.C. 3121 et seq.].

(6) The Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965.

(7) The Federal Water Pollution Control Act [33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.].

(b) Obligation of certain discretionary funds

In the obligation of discretionary funds or funds which are not allocated among the States or political subdivisions of a State, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Secretary of Commerce shall give priority to applications for projects for major disaster areas.

### **{311} 5154. Insurance**

(a) Applicants for replacement of damaged facilities

(1) Compliance with certain regulations

An applicant for assistance under section 5172 of this title (relating to repair, restoration, and replacement of damaged facilities), section 5189 of this title (relating to simplified procedure) or section 3233 of this title shall comply with regulations prescribed by the President to assure that, with respect to any property to be replaced, restored, repaired, or constructed with such assistance, such types and extent of insurance will be obtained and maintained as may be reasonably available, adequate, and necessary, to protect against future loss to such property.

(2) Determination

In making a determination with respect to availability, adequacy, and necessity under paragraph (1), the President shall not require greater types and extent of insurance than are certified to him as reasonable by the appropriate State insurance commissioner responsible for regulation of such insurance.

(b) Maintenance of insurance

No applicant for assistance under section 5172 of this title (relating to repair, restoration, and replacement of damaged facilities), section 5189 of this title (relating to simplified procedure), or section 3233 of this title may receive such assistance for any property or part thereof for which the applicant has previously received assistance under this chapter unless all insurance required pursuant to this section has been obtained and maintained with respect to such property. The requirements of this subsection may not be waived under section 5141 of this title.

(c) State acting as self-insurer

A State may elect to act as a self-insurer with respect to any or all of the facilities owned by the State. Such an election, if declared in writing at the time of acceptance of assistance under section 5172 or 5189 or 3233 of this title or subsequently and accompanied by a plan for self-insurance which is satisfactory to the President, shall be deemed compliance with subsection (a) of this section. No such self-insurer may receive assistance under section 5172 or 5189 of this title for any property or part thereof for which it has previously received assistance under this chapter, to the extent that insurance for such property or part thereof would have been reasonably available.

**{312} 5155. Duplication of benefits**

(a) General prohibition

The President, in consultation with the head of each Federal agency administering any program providing financial assistance to persons, business concerns, or other entities suffering losses as a result of a major disaster or emergency, shall assure that no such person, business concern, or other entity will receive such assistance with respect to any part of such loss as to which he has received financial assistance under any other program or from insurance or any other source.

(b) Special rules

(1) Limitation

This section shall not prohibit the provision of Federal assistance to a person who is or may be entitled to receive benefits for the same purposes from another source if such person has not received such other benefits by the time of application for Federal assistance and if such person agrees to repay all duplicative assistance to the agency providing the Federal assistance.

(2) Procedures

The President shall establish such procedures as the President considers necessary to ensure uniformity in preventing duplication of benefits.

(3) Effect of partial benefits

Receipt of partial benefits for a major disaster or emergency shall not preclude provision of additional Federal assistance for any part of a loss or need for which benefits have not been provided.

(c) Recovery of duplicative benefits

A person receiving Federal assistance for a major disaster or emergency shall be liable to the United States to the extent that such assistance duplicates benefits available to the person for the same purpose from another source. The agency which provided the duplicative assistance shall

collect such duplicative assistance from the recipient in accordance with chapter 37 of Title 31 relating to debt collection, when the head of such agency considers it to be in the best interest of the Federal Government.

**(d) Assistance not income**

Federal major disaster and emergency assistance provided to individuals and families under this chapter, and comparable disaster assistance provided by States, local governments, and disaster assistance organizations, shall not be considered as income or a resource when determining eligibility for or benefit levels under federally funded income assistance or resource-tested benefit programs.

**{313} 5156. Standards and reviews**

The President shall establish comprehensive standards which shall be used to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of Federal major disaster and emergency assistance programs administered under this chapter. The President shall conduct annual reviews of the activities of Federal agencies and State and local governments in major disaster and emergency preparedness and in providing major disaster and emergency assistance in order to assure maximum coordination and effectiveness of such programs and consistency in policies for reimbursement of States under this chapter.

**{314} 5157. Penalties**

**(a) Misuse of funds**

Any person who knowingly misapplies the proceeds of a loan or other cash benefit obtained under this chapter shall be fined an amount equal to one and one-half times the misapplied amount of the proceeds or cash benefit.

**(b) Civil enforcement**

Whenever it appears that any person has violated or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, including any civil penalty imposed under this chapter, the Attorney General may bring a civil action for such relief as may be appropriate. Such action may be brought in an appropriate United States district court.

**(c) Referral to Attorney General**

The President shall expeditiously refer to the Attorney General for appropriate action any evidence developed in the performance of functions under this chapter that may warrant consideration for criminal prosecution.

**(d) Civil penalty**

Any individual who knowingly violates any order or regulation issued under this chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for each violation.

### **{315} 5158. Availability of materials**

The President is authorized, at the request of the Governor of an affected State, to provide for a survey of construction materials needed in the area affected by a major disaster on an emergency basis for housing repairs, replacement housing, public facilities repairs and replacement, farming operations, and business enterprises and to take appropriate action to assure the availability and fair distribution of needed materials, including, where possible, the allocation of such materials for a period of not more than one hundred and eighty days after such major disaster. Any allocation program shall be implemented by the President to the extent possible, by working with and through those companies which traditionally supply construction materials in the affected area. For the purposes of this section "construction materials" shall include building materials and materials required for repairing housing, replacement housing, public facilities repairs and replacement, and for normal farm and business operations.

### **{316} 5159. Protection of environment**

An action which is taken or assistance which is provided pursuant to section 5170a, 5170b, 5172, 5173 or 5192 of this title, including such assistance provided pursuant to the procedures provided for in section 5189 of this title, which has the effect of restoring a facility substantially to its condition prior to the disaster or emergency, shall not be deemed a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (83 Stat. 852) [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.]. Nothing in this section shall alter or affect the applicability of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to other Federal actions taken under this chapter or under any other provisions of law.

### **{317} 5160. Recovery of assistance**

#### **(a) Party liable**

Any person who intentionally causes a condition for which Federal assistance is provided under this chapter or under any other Federal law as a result of a declaration of a major disaster or emergency under this chapter shall be liable to the United States for the reasonable costs incurred by the United States in responding to such disaster or emergency to the extent that such costs are attributable to the intentional act or omission of such person which caused such condition. Such action for reasonable costs shall be brought in an appropriate United States district court.

#### **(b) Rendering of care**

A person shall not be liable under this section for costs incurred by the United States as a result of actions taken or omitted by such person in the course of rendering care or assistance in response to a major disaster or emergency.



## **{318} 5161. Audits and investigations**

### **(a) In general**

Subject to the provisions of chapter 75 of Title 31, relating to requirements for single audits, the President shall conduct audits and investigations as necessary to assure compliance with this chapter, and in connection therewith may question such persons as may be necessary to carry out such audits and investigations.

### **(b) Access to records**

For purposes of audits and investigations under this section, the President and Comptroller General may inspect any books, documents, papers, and records of any person relating to any activity undertaken or funded under this chapter.

### **(c) State and local audits**

The President may require audits by State and local governments in connection with assistance under this chapter when necessary to assure compliance with this chapter or related regulations.

## **{319} 5162. Advance of Non-Federal Share**

### **(a) In general**

The President may lend or advance to an eligible applicant or a State the portion of assistance for which the State is responsible under the cost-sharing provisions of this chapter in any case in which--

**(1)** the State is unable to assume its financial responsibility under such cost-sharing provisions--

**(A)** with respect to concurrent, multiple major disasters in a jurisdiction, or

**(B)** after incurring extraordinary costs as a result of a particular disaster; and

**(2)** the damages caused by such disasters or disaster are so overwhelming and severe that it is not possible for the applicant or the State to assume immediately their financial responsibility under this chapter. **(b) Terms of loans and advances**

### **(1) In general**

Any loan or advance under this section shall be repaid to the United States.

## **(2) Interest**

Loans and advances under this section shall bear interest at a rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration the current market yields on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the reimbursement period of the loan or advance.

## **(c) Regulations**

The President shall issue regulations describing the terms and conditions under which any loan or advance authorized by this section may be made.

### **{320} 5163. Limitation on use of sliding scales**

No geographic area shall be precluded from receiving assistance under this chapter solely by virtue of an arithmetic formula or sliding scale based on income or population.

### **{321} 5164. Rules and regulations**

The President may prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of this chapter, and may exercise, either directly or through such Federal agency as the President may designate, any power or authority conferred to the President by this chapter.

## **UNITED STATES CODE**

### **TITLE 42. THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE**

#### **CHAPTER 68--DISASTER RELIEF**

#### **SUBCHAPTER IV--MAJOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

### **{401} 5170. Procedure for declaration**

All requests for a declaration by the President that a major disaster exists shall be made by the Governor of the affected State. Such a request shall be based on a finding that the disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local governments and that Federal assistance is necessary. As part of such request, and as a prerequisite to major disaster assistance under this chapter, the Governor shall take appropriate response action under State law and direct execution of the State's emergency plan. The Governor shall furnish information on the nature and amount of State and local resources which have been or will be committed to alleviating the results of the disaster, and shall certify that, for the current disaster, State and local government obligations and expenditures (of which State commitments must be a significant proportion) will comply with all applicable cost-sharing requirements of this chapter. Based on the request of a Governor under this section, the President may declare under this chapter that a major disaster or emergency exists.

#### **{402} 5170a. General Federal Assistance**

In any major disaster, the President may--

(1) direct any Federal agency, with or without reimbursement, to utilize its authorities and the resources granted to it under Federal law (including personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and managerial, technical, and advisory services) in support of State and local assistance efforts;

(2) coordinate all disaster relief assistance (including voluntary assistance) provided by Federal agencies, private organizations, and State and local governments;

(3) provide technical and advisory assistance to affected State and local governments for--

(A) the performance of essential community services;

(B) issuance of warnings of risks and hazards;

(C) public health and safety information, including dissemination of such information;

(D) provision of health and safety measures; and

(E) management, control, and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety; and

(4) assist State and local governments in the distribution of medicine, food, and other consumable supplies, and emergency assistance.

#### **{403} 5170b. Essential Assistance**

(a) In general

Federal agencies may on the direction of the President, provide assistance essential to meeting immediate threats to life and property resulting from a major disaster, as follows:

(1) Federal resources, generally

Utilizing, lending, or donating to State and local governments Federal equipment, supplies, facilities, personnel, and other resources, other than the extension of credit, for use or distribution by such governments in accordance with the purposes of this Act.

(2) Medicine, food, and other consumables

Distributing or rendering through State and local governments, the American National Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Mennonite Disaster Service, and other relief and disaster assistance organizations medicine, food, and other consumable supplies, and other services and assistance to disaster victims.

**(3) Work and services to save lives and protect property**

Performing on public or private lands or waters any work or services essential to saving lives and protecting and preserving property or public health and safety, including--

**(A)** debris removal;

**(B)** search and rescue, emergency medical care, emergency mass care, emergency shelter, and provision of food, water, medicine, and other essential needs, including movement of supplies or persons;

**(C)** clearance of roads and construction of temporary bridges necessary to the performance of emergency tasks and essential community services;

**(D)** provision of temporary facilities for schools and other essential community services;

**(E)** demolition of unsafe structures which endanger the public;

**(F)** warning of further risks and hazards;

**(G)** dissemination of public information and assistance regarding health and safety measures;

**(H)** provision of technical advice to State and local governments on disaster management and control; and

**(I)** reduction of immediate threats to life, property, and public health and safety.

**(4) Contributions**

Making contributions to State or local governments or owners or operators of private nonprofit facilities for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subsection.

**(b) Federal share**

The Federal share of assistance under this section shall be not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost of such assistance.

**(c) Utilization of DOD resources**

**(1) General rule**

During the immediate aftermath of an incident which may ultimately qualify for assistance under this title or title V of this Act [42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq. or 5191 et seq.], the Governor of the State in which such incident occurred may request the President to direct the Secretary of Defense to utilize the resources of the Department of Defense for the purpose of performing on public and private lands any emergency work which is made necessary by such incident and which is essential for the

preservation of life and property. If the President determines that such work is essential for the preservation of life and property, the President shall grant such request to the extent the President determines practicable. Such emergency work may only be carried out for a period not to exceed 10 days.

**(2) Rules applicable to debris removal**

Any removal of debris and wreckage carried out under this subsection shall be subject to section 5173(b) of this title [42 U.S.C. 5173(b)], relating to unconditional authorization and indemnification for debris removal.

**(3) Expenditures out of disaster relief funds**

The cost of any assistance provided pursuant to this subsection shall be reimbursed out of funds made available to carry out this Act.

**(4) Federal share**

The Federal share of assistance under this subsection shall be not less than 75 percent.

**(5) Guidelines**

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Amendments of 1988 [enacted Nov. 23, 1988], the President shall issue guidelines for carrying out this subsection. Such guidelines shall consider any likely effect assistance under this subsection will have on the availability of other forms of assistance under this Act.

**(6) Definitions**

For purposes of this section--

**(A) Department of Defense**

The term 'Department of Defense' has the meaning the term "department" has under section 101 of title 10, United States Code.

**(B) Emergency work**

The term "emergency work" includes clearance and removal of debris and wreckage and temporary restoration of essential public facilities and services.

## **{Sec 404} 5170c. Hazard Mitigation**

### **(a) In General.**

The President may contribute up to 75 percent of the cost of hazard mitigation measures which the President has determined are cost-effective and which substantially reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering in any area affected by a major disaster. Such measures shall be identified following the evaluation of natural hazards under section 5176 of this title and shall be subject to approval by the President. The total of contributions under this section for a major disaster shall not exceed 15 percent of the estimated aggregate amount of grants to be made (less any associated administrative costs) under this chapter with respect to the major disaster. (b) Property acquisition and relocation assistance.--

#### **(1) General authority.**

In providing hazard mitigation assistance under this section in connection with flooding, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may provide property acquisition and relocation assistance for projects that meet the requirements of paragraph (2).

#### **(2) Terms and conditions.**

An acquisition or relocation project shall be eligible to receive assistance pursuant to paragraph (1) only if--

**(A)** the applicant for the assistance is otherwise eligible to receive assistance under the hazard mitigation grant program established under subsection (a) of this section; and

**(B)** on or after December 3, 1993, the applicant for the assistance enters into an agreement with the Director that provides assurances that--

**(i)** any property acquired, accepted, or from which a structure will be removed pursuant to the project will be dedicated and maintained in perpetuity for a use that is compatible with open space, recreational, or wetlands management practices;

**(ii)** no new structure will be erected on property acquired, accepted or from which a structure was removed under the acquisition or relocation program other than--

**(I)** a public facility that is open on all sides and functionally related to a designated open space;

**(II)** a rest room; or

**(III)** a structure that the Director approves in writing before the commencement of the construction of the structure; and

**(iii)** after receipt of the assistance, with respect to any property acquired, accepted or from which a structure was removed under the acquisition or relocation program--

(I) no subsequent application for additional disaster assistance for any purpose will be made by the recipient to any Federal entity; and

(II) no assistance referred to in subclause (I) will be provided to the applicant by any Federal source.

**(3) Statutory construction**

Nothing in this subsection is intended to alter or otherwise affect an agreement for an acquisition or relocation project carried out pursuant to this section that was in effect on December 3, 1993.

**{405} 5171. Federal facilities**

**(a) Repair, reconstruction, restoration or replacement of United States facilities**

The President may authorize any Federal agency to repair, reconstruct, restore, or replace any facility owned by the United States and under the jurisdiction of such agency which is damaged or destroyed by any major disaster if he determines that such repair, reconstruction, restoration, or replacement is of such importance and urgency that it cannot reasonably be deferred pending the enactment of specific authorizing legislation or the making of an appropriation for such purposes, or the obtaining of congressional committee approval. (b) Availability of funds appropriated to agency for repair, reconstruction, restoration, or replacement of agency facilities

In order to carry out the provisions of this section, such repair, reconstruction, restoration, or replacement may be begun notwithstanding a lack or an insufficiency of funds appropriated for such purpose, where such lack or insufficiency can be remedied by the transfer, in accordance with law, of funds appropriated to that agency for another purpose. (c) Steps for mitigation of hazards

In implementing this section, Federal agencies shall evaluate the natural hazards to which these facilities are exposed and shall take appropriate action to mitigate such hazards, including safe land-use and construction practices, in accordance with standards prescribed by the President.

**{406} 5172. Repair, restoration, and replacement of damaged facilities**

**(a) Contributions**

The President may make contributions--

(1) to a State or local government for the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of a public facility which is damaged or destroyed by a major disaster and for associated expenses incurred by such government; and

(2) to a person who owns or operates a private nonprofit facility damaged or destroyed by a major disaster for the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of such facility and for associated expenses incurred by such person.

**(b) Minimum Federal share**

The Federal share of assistance under this section shall be not less than--

(1) 75 percent of the net eligible cost of repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement carried out under this section;

(2) 100 percent of associated expenses described in subsections (f)(1) and (f)(2) of this section; and

(3) 75 percent of associated expenses described in subsections (f)(3), (f)(4), and (f)(5) of this section.

**(c) Large in lieu contributions**

**(1) For public facilities**

In any case where a State or local government determines that the public welfare would not be best served by repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing any public facility owned or controlled by such State or local government, it may elect to receive, in lieu of a contribution under subsection (a)(1) of this section, a contribution of not to exceed 90 percent of the Federal share of the Federal estimate of the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing such facility and of associated expenses. Funds contributed under this subsection may be used to repair, restore, or expand other selected public facilities, to construct new facilities, or to fund hazard mitigation measures which the State or local government determines to be necessary to meet a need for governmental services and functions in the area affected by the major disaster.

**(2) For private nonprofit facilities**

In any case where a person who owns or operates a private nonprofit facility determines that the public welfare would not be best served by repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing such facility, such person may elect to receive, in lieu of a contribution under subsection (a)(2) of this section, a contribution of not to exceed 90 percent of the Federal share of the Federal estimate of the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing such facility and of associated expenses. Funds contributed under this subsection may be used to repair, restore, or expand other selected private nonprofit facilities owned or operated by such person, to construct new private nonprofit facilities to be owned or operated by such person, or to fund hazard mitigation measures which such person determines to be necessary to meet a need for its services and functions in the area affected by the major disaster.

**(3) Restriction on use for State or local contribution**

Funds provided under this subsection shall not be used for any State or local government cost-sharing contribution required under this chapter. (d) Flood insurance



**(1) Reduction of Federal assistance**

If a public facility or private nonprofit facility located in a special flood hazard area identified for more than 1 year by the Director pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) is damaged or destroyed, after the 180th day following November 23, 1988, by flooding in a major disaster and such facility is not covered on the date of such flooding by flood insurance, the Federal assistance which would otherwise be available under this section with respect to repair, restoration, reconstruction, and replacement of such facility and associated expenses shall be reduced in accordance with paragraph (2).

**(2) Amount of reduction**

The amount of a reduction in Federal assistance under this section with respect to a facility shall be the lesser of--

**(A)** the value of such facility on the date of the flood damage or destruction, or

**(B)** the maximum amount of insurance proceeds which would have been payable with respect to such facility if such facility had been covered by flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 [42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.] on such date.

**(3) Exception**

Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to a private nonprofit facility which is not covered by flood insurance solely because of the local government's failure to participate in the flood insurance program established by the National Flood Insurance Act.

**(4) Dissemination of information**

The President shall disseminate information regarding the reduction in Federal assistance provided for by this subsection to State and local governments and the owners and operators of private nonprofit facilities who may be affected by such a reduction. (e) Net eligible cost

**(1) General rule**

For purposes of this section, the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing a public facility or private nonprofit facility on the basis of the design of such facility as it existed immediately prior to the major disaster and in conformity with current applicable codes, specifications, and standards (including floodplain management and hazard mitigation criteria required by the President or by the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)) shall, at a minimum, be treated as the net eligible cost of such repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement.

## **(2) Special rule**

In any case in which the facility being repaired, restored, reconstructed, or replaced under this section was under construction on the date of the major disaster, the cost of repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing such facility shall include, for purposes of this section, only those costs which, under the contract for such construction, are the owner's responsibility and not the contractor's responsibility.

### **(f) Associated expenses**

For purposes of this section, associated expenses include the following:

#### **(1) Necessary costs**

Necessary costs of requesting, obtaining, and administering Federal assistance based on a percentage of assistance provided as follows:

**(A)** For an applicant whose net eligible costs equal less than \$100,000, 3 percent of such net eligible costs.

**(B)** For an applicant whose net eligible costs equal \$100,000 or more but less than \$1,000,000, \$3,000 plus 2 percent of such net eligible costs in excess of \$100,000.

**(C)** For an applicant whose net eligible costs equal \$1,000,000 or more but less than \$5,000,000, \$21,000 plus 1 percent of such net eligible costs in excess of \$1,000,000.

**(D)** For an applicant whose net eligible costs equal \$5,000,000 or more, \$61,000 plus 1/2 percent of such net eligible costs in excess of \$5,000,000.

#### **(2) Extraordinary costs**

Extraordinary costs incurred by a State for preparation of damage survey reports, final inspection reports, project applications, final audits, and related field inspections by State employees, including overtime pay and per diem and travel expenses of such employees, but not including pay for regular time of such employees, based on the total amount of assistance provided under sections 5170b, 5170c, 5172, 5173, 5192 and 5193 of this title in such State in connection with the major disaster as follows:

**(A)** If such total amount is less than \$100,000, 3 percent of such total amount.

**(B)** If such total amount is \$100,000 or more but less than \$1,000,000, \$3,000 plus 2 percent of such total amount in excess of \$100,000.

**(C)** If such total amount is \$1,000,000 or more but less than \$5,000,000, \$21,000 plus 1 percent of such total amount in excess of \$1,000,000.

(D) If such total amount is \$5,000,000 or more, \$61,000 plus 1/2 percent of such total amount in excess of \$5,000,000.

**(3) Costs of National Guard**

The costs of mobilizing and employing the National Guard for performance of eligible work.

**(4) Costs of prison labor**

The costs of using prison labor to perform eligible work, including wages actually paid, transportation to a worksite, and extraordinary costs of guards, food, and lodging.

**(5) Other labor costs**

Base and overtime wages for an applicant's employees and extra hires performing eligible work plus fringe benefits on such wages to the extent that such benefits were being paid before the disaster.

**{407} 5173. Debris removal**

**(a) Presidential authority**

The President may make contributions--

(1) through the use of Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities, to clear debris and wreckage resulting from a major disaster from publicly and privately owned lands and waters; and

(2) to make grants to any State or local government or owner or operator of a private nonprofit facility for the purpose of removing debris or wreckage resulting from a major disaster from publicly or privately owned lands and waters. (b) Authorization by State or local government; indemnification agreement

No authority under this section shall be exercised unless the affected State or local government shall first arrange an unconditional authorization for removal of such debris or wreckage from public and private property, and, in the case of removal of debris or wreckage from private property, shall first agree to indemnify the Federal Government against any claim arising from such removal.

**(c) Rules relating to large lots**

The President shall issue rules which provide for recognition of differences existing among urban, suburban, and rural lands in implementation of this section so as to facilitate adequate removal of debris and wreckage from large lots.

**(d) Federal share**

The Federal share of assistance under this section shall be not less than 75 percent of the eligible cost of debris and wreckage removal carried out under this section.

**{408} 5174. Temporary housing assistance**

**(a) Provision of temporary housing**

**(1) In general**

The President may--

**(A)** provide, by purchase or lease, temporary housing (including unoccupied habitable dwellings), suitable rental housing, mobile homes, or other readily fabricated dwellings to persons who, as a result of a major disaster, require temporary housing; and

**(B)** reimburse State and local governments in accordance with paragraph (4) for the cost of sites provided under paragraph (2).

**(2) Mobile home site**

**(A) In general**

Any mobile home or other readily fabricated dwelling provided under this section shall whenever possible be located on a site which--

**(i)** is provided by the State or local government; and

**(ii)** has utilities provided by the State or local government, by the owner of the site, or by the occupant who was displaced by the major disaster.

**(B) Other sites**

Mobile homes and other readily fabricated dwellings may be located on sites provided by the President if the President determines that such sites would be more economical or accessible than sites described in subparagraph (A).

**(3) Period**

Federal financial and operational assistance under this section shall continue for not longer than 18 months after the date of the major disaster declaration by the President, unless the President determines that due to extraordinary circumstances it would be in the public interest to extend such 18-month period.

#### **(4) Federal share**

The Federal share of assistance under this section shall be 100 percent; except that the Federal share of assistance under this section for construction and site development costs (including installation of utilities) at a mobile home group site shall be 75 percent of the eligible cost of such assistance. The State or local government receiving assistance under this section shall pay any cost which is not paid for from the Federal share.

#### **(b) Temporary mortgage and rental payments**

The President is authorized to provide assistance on a temporary basis in the form of mortgage or rental payments to or on behalf of individuals and families who, as a result of financial hardship caused by a major disaster, have received written notice of dispossession or eviction from a residence by reason of a foreclosure of any mortgage or lien, cancellation of any contract of sale, or termination of any lease, entered into prior to such disaster. Such assistance shall be provided for the duration of the period of financial hardship but not to exceed 18 months.

#### **(c) In lieu expenditures**

In lieu of providing other types of temporary housing after a major disaster, the President is authorized to make expenditures for the purpose of repairing or restoring to a habitable condition owner-occupied private residential structures made uninhabitable by a major disaster which are capable of being restored quickly to a habitable condition. (d) Transfer of temporary housing

#### **(1) Direct sale to occupants**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any temporary housing acquired by purchase may be sold directly to individuals and families who are occupants of temporary housing at prices that are fair and equitable, as determined by the President.

#### **(2) Transfers to states, local governments, and voluntary organizations**

The President may sell or otherwise make available temporary housing units directly to States, other governmental entities, and voluntary organizations. The President shall impose as a condition of transfer under this paragraph a covenant to comply with the provisions of section 308 [42 U.S.C. 5171] requiring nondiscrimination in occupancy of such temporary housing units. Such disposition shall be limited to units purchased under the provisions of subsection (a) of this section and to the purposes of providing temporary housing for disaster victims in major disasters or emergencies.

#### **(e) Notification**

##### **(1) In general**

Each person who applies for assistance under this section shall be notified regarding the type and amount of any assistance for which such person qualifies. Whenever practicable, such notice shall be provided within 7 days after the date of submission of such application.

**(2) Information**

Notification under this subsection shall provide information regarding--

**(A)** all forms of such assistance available;

**(B)** any specific criteria which must be met to qualify for each type of assistance that is available;

**(C)** any limitations which apply to each type of assistance; and

**(D)** the address and telephone number of offices responsible for responding to--

**(i)** appeals of determinations of eligibility for assistance; and

**(ii)** requests for changes in the type or amount of assistance provided.

**(f) Location**

In providing assistance under this section, consideration shall be given to the location of and travel time to--

**(1)** the applicant's home and place of business;

**(2)** schools which the applicant or members of the applicant's family who reside with the applicant attend; and

**(3)** crops or livestock which the applicant tends in the course of any involvement in farming which provides 25 percent or more of the applicant's annual income.

**5175. Repealed.**

Pub.L. 100-707, Title I, 105(m)(2), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4696

**{409} 5176. Minimum standards for public and private structures**

As a condition of any disaster loan or grant made under the provisions of this chapter, the recipient shall agree that any repair or construction to be financed therewith shall be in accordance with applicable standards of safety, decency, and sanitation and in conformity with applicable codes, specifications, and standards, and shall furnish such evidence of compliance with this section as may be required by regulation. As a further condition of any loan or grant made under the provisions of this chapter, the State or local government shall agree that the natural hazards in the areas in which the proceeds of the grants or loans are to be used shall be evaluated and appropriate action shall be taken to mitigate such hazards, including safe land-use and construction practices, in accordance with standards prescribed or approved by the President after adequate

consultation with the appropriate elected officials of general purpose local governments, and the State shall furnish such evidence of compliance with this section as may be required by regulation.

**{410} 5177. Unemployment assistance**

**(a) Benefit assistance**

The President is authorized to provide to any individual unemployed as a result of a major disaster such benefit assistance as he deems appropriate while such individual is unemployed for the weeks of such unemployment with respect to which the individual is not entitled to any other unemployment compensation (as that term is defined in section 85(b) of Title 26) or waiting period credit. Such assistance as the President shall provide shall be available to an individual as long as the individual's unemployment caused by the major disaster continues or until the individual is reemployed in a suitable position, but no longer than 26 weeks after the major disaster is declared. Such assistance for a week of unemployment shall not exceed the maximum weekly amount authorized under the unemployment compensation law of the State in which the disaster occurred. The President is directed to provide such assistance through agreements with States which, in his judgment, have an adequate system for administering such assistance through existing State agencies.

**(b) Reemployment assistance**

**(1) State assistance**

A State shall provide, without reimbursement from any funds provided under this chapter, reemployment assistance services under any other law administered by the State to individuals receiving benefits under this section.

**(2) Federal assistance**

The President may provide reemployment assistance services under other laws to individuals who are unemployed as a result of a major disaster and who reside in a State which does not provide such services.

**{411} 5178. Individual and family grant programs**

**(a) In general**

The President is authorized to make a grant to a State for the purpose of making grants to individuals or families adversely affected by a major disaster for meeting disaster-related necessary expenses or serious needs of such individuals or families in those cases where such individuals or families are unable to meet such expenses or needs through assistance under other provisions of this chapter or through other means.

**(b) Cost sharing**

**(1) Federal share**

The Federal share of a grant to an individual or a family under this section shall be equal to 75 percent of the actual cost incurred.

**(2) State contribution**

The Federal share of a grant under this section shall be paid only on condition that the remaining 25 percent of the cost is paid to an individual or family from funds made available by a State.

**(c) Regulations**

The President shall promulgate regulations to carry out this section and such regulations shall include national criteria, standards, and procedures for the determination of eligibility for grants and the administration of grants under this section.

**(d) Administrative expenses**

A State may expend not to exceed 5 percent of any grant made by the President to it under subsection (a) of this section for expenses of administering grants to individuals and families under this section.

**(e) Administration through Governor**

The Governor of a State shall administer the grant program authorized by this section in the State.

**(f) Limit on grants to individual**

No individual or family shall receive grants under this section aggregating more than \$10,000 with respect to any single major disaster. Such \$10,000 limit shall annually be adjusted to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Department of Labor.

**{412} 5179. Food coupons and distribution**

**(a) Persons eligible; terms and conditions**

Whenever the President determines that, as a result of a major disaster, low-income households are unable to purchase adequate amounts of nutritious food, he is authorized, under such terms and conditions as he may prescribe, to distribute through the Secretary of Agriculture or other appropriate agencies coupon allotments to such households pursuant to the provisions of the Food Stamp Act of 1964 (Pub.L 91-671; 84 Stat. 2048) [7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.] and to make surplus commodities available pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.



**(b) Duration of assistance; factors considered**

The President, through the Secretary of Agriculture or other appropriate agencies, is authorized to continue to make such coupon allotments and surplus commodities available to such households for so long as he determines necessary, taking into consideration such factors as he deems appropriate, including the consequences of the major disaster on the earning power of the households, to which assistance is made available under this section.

**(c) Food Stamp Act provisions unaffected**

Nothing in this section shall be construed as amending or otherwise changing the provisions of the Food Stamp Act of 1964 [7 U.S.C.A. 2011 et seq.] except as they relate to the availability of food stamps in an area affected by a major disaster.

**{413} 5180. Food commodities**

**(a) Emergency mass feeding**

The President is authorized and directed to assure that adequate stocks of food will be ready and conveniently available for emergency mass feeding or distribution in any area of the United States which suffers a major disaster or emergency.

**(b) Funds for purchase of food commodities**

The Secretary of Agriculture shall utilize funds appropriated under section 612c of Title 7, to purchase food commodities necessary to provide adequate supplies for use in any area of the United States in the event of a major disaster or emergency in such area.

**{414} 5181. Relocation assistance**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person otherwise eligible for any kind of replacement housing payment under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (Pub.L 91-646) [42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.] shall be denied such eligibility as a result of his being unable, because of a major disaster as determined by the President, to meet the occupancy requirements set by such Act.

**{415} 5182. Legal services**

Whenever the President determines that low-income individuals are unable to secure legal services adequate to meet their needs as a consequence of a major disaster, consistent with the goals of the programs authorized by this chapter, the President shall assure that such programs are conducted with the advice and assistance of appropriate Federal agencies and State and local bar associations.

**{416} 5183. Crisis counseling assistance and training**

The President is authorized to provide professional counseling services, including financial assistance to State or local agencies or private mental health organizations to provide such services or training of disaster workers, to victims of major disasters in order to relieve mental health problems caused or aggravated by such major disaster or its aftermath.

**{417} 5184. Community disaster loans**

(a) The President is authorized to make loans to any local government which may suffer a substantial loss of tax and other revenues as a result of a major disaster, and has demonstrated a need for financial assistance in order to perform its governmental functions. The amount of any such loan shall be based on need, and shall not exceed 25 per centum of the annual operating budget of that local government for the fiscal year in which the major disaster occurs. Repayment of all or any part of such loan to the extent that revenues of the local government during the three full fiscal year period following the major disaster are insufficient to meet the operating budget of the local government, including additional disaster-related expenses of a municipal operation character shall be cancelled.

(b) Any loans made under this section shall not reduce or otherwise affect any grants or other assistance under this chapter.

**{418} 5185. Emergency communications**

The President is authorized during, or in anticipation of, an emergency or major disaster to establish temporary communications systems and to make such communications available to State and local government officials and other persons as he deems appropriate.

**{419} 5186. Emergency public transportation**

The President is authorized to provide temporary public transportation service in an area affected by a major disaster to meet emergency needs and to provide transportation to governmental offices, supply centers, stores, post offices, schools, major employment centers, and such other places as may be necessary in order to enable the community to resume its normal pattern of life as soon as possible.

**{420} 5187. Fire suppression grants**

The President is authorized to provide assistance, including grants, equipment, supplies, and personnel, to any State for the suppression of any fire on publicly or privately owned forest or grassland which threatens such destruction as would constitute a major disaster.

**{421} 5188. Timber sale contracts**

**(a) Cost-sharing arrangement**

Where an existing timber sale contract between the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior and a timber purchaser does not provide relief from major physical change not due to negligence of the purchaser prior to approval of construction of any section of specified road or of any other specified development facility and, as a result of a major disaster, a major physical change results in additional construction work in connection with such road or facility by such purchaser with an estimated cost, as determined by the appropriate Secretary, (1) of more than \$1,000 for sales under one million board feet, (2) of more than \$1 per thousand board feet for sales of one to three million board feet, or (3) of more than \$3,000 for sales over three million board feet, such increased construction cost shall be borne by the United States.

**(b) Cancellation of authority**

If the appropriate Secretary determines that damages are so great that restoration, reconstruction, or construction is not practical under the cost-sharing arrangement authorized by subsection (a) of this section, he may allow cancellation of a contract entered into by his Department notwithstanding contrary provisions therein.

**(c) Public notice of sale**

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to reduce to seven days the minimum period of advance public notice required by section 476 of Title 16, in connection with the sale of timber from national forests, whenever the Secretary determines that (1) the sale of such timber will assist in the construction of any area of a State damaged by a major disaster, (2) the sale of such timber will assist in sustaining the economy of such area, or (3) the sale of such timber is necessary to salvage the value of timber damaged in such major disaster or to protect undamaged timber.

**(d) State grants for removal of damaged timber; reimbursement of expenses limited to salvage value of removed timber**

The President, when he determines it to be in the public interest, is authorized to make grants to any State or local government for the purpose of removing from privately owned lands timber damaged as a result of a major disaster, and such State or local government is authorized upon application, to make payments out of such grants to any person for reimbursement of expenses actually incurred by such person in the removal of damaged timber, not to exceed the amount that such expenses exceed the salvage value of such timber.

**{422} 5189. Simplified procedure**

If the Federal estimate of the cost of--

**(1)** repairing, restoring, reconstructing, or replacing under section 5172 of this title any damaged or destroyed public facility or private nonprofit facility,

(2) emergency assistance under section 5170b or 5192 of this title, or

(3) debris removed under section 5173 of this title,

is less than \$35,000, the President (on application of the State or local government or the owner or operator of the private nonprofit facility) may make the contribution to such State or local government or owner or operator under section 5170b, 5172, 5173, or 5192 of this title, as the case may be, on the basis of such Federal estimate. Such \$35,000 amount shall be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the Department of Labor.

#### **{423} 5189a. Appeals of assistance decisions**

##### **(a) Right of appeal**

Any decision regarding eligibility for, from, or amount of assistance under this subchapter may be appealed within 60 days after the date on which the applicant for such assistance is notified of the award or denial of award of such assistance.

##### **(b) Period for decision**

A decision regarding an appeal under subsection (a) of this section shall be rendered within 90 days after the date on which the Federal official designated to administer such appeals receives notice of such appeal.

##### **(c) Rules**

The President shall issue rules which provide for the fair and impartial consideration of appeals under this section.

#### **{424} 5189b. Date of eligibility;**

expenses incurred before date of disaster

Eligibility for Federal assistance under this subchapter shall begin on the date of the occurrence of the event which results in a declaration by the President that a major disaster exists; except that reasonable expenses which are incurred in anticipation of and immediately preceding such event may be eligible for Federal assistance under this chapter.

UNITED STATES CODE  
TITLE 42. THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
CHAPTER 68--DISASTER RELIEF  
SUBCHAPTER IV-A--EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**{501} 5191. Procedure for declaration**

**(a) Request and declaration**

All requests for a declaration by the President that an emergency exists shall be made by the Governor of the affected State. Such a request shall be based on a finding that the situation is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local governments and that Federal assistance is necessary. As a part of such request, and as a prerequisite to emergency assistance under this chapter, the Governor shall take appropriate action under State law and direct execution of the State's emergency plan. The Governor shall furnish information describing the State and local efforts and resources which have been or will be used to alleviate the emergency, and will define the type and extent of Federal aid required. Based upon such Governor's request, the President may declare that an emergency exists.

**(b) Certain emergencies involving Federal primary responsibility**

The President may exercise any authority vested in him by section 5192 of this title or section 5193 of this title with respect to an emergency when he determines that an emergency exists for which the primary responsibility for response rests with the United States because the emergency involves a subject area for which, under the Constitution or laws of the United States, the United States exercises exclusive or preeminent responsibility and authority. In determining whether or not such an emergency exists, the President shall consult the Governor of any affected State, if practicable. The President's determination may be made without regard to subsection (a) of this section.

**{502} 5192. Federal emergency assistance**

**(a) Specified**

In any emergency, the President may--

(1) direct any Federal agency, with or without reimbursement, to utilize its authorities and the resources granted to it under Federal law (including personnel, equipment, supplies, facilities, and managerial, technical and advisory services) in support of State and local emergency assistance efforts to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe;

(2) coordinate all disaster relief assistance (including voluntary assistance) provided by Federal agencies, private organizations, and State and local governments;

- (3) provide technical and advisory assistance to affected State and local governments for--
  - (A) the performance of essential community services;
  - (B) issuance of warnings of risks or hazards;
  - (C) public health and safety information, including dissemination of such information;
  - (D) provision of health and safety measures; and
  - (E) management, control, and reduction of immediate threats to public health and safety;
- (4) provide emergency assistance through Federal agencies;
- (5) remove debris in accordance with the terms and conditions of section 5173 of this title;
- (6) provide temporary housing assistance in accordance with section 5174 of this title; and
- (7) assist State and local governments in the distribution of medicine, food, and other consumable supplies, and emergency assistance.

**(b) General**

Whenever the Federal assistance provided under subsection (a) of this section with respect to an emergency is inadequate, the President may also provide assistance with respect to efforts to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, and lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe.

**{503} 5193. Amount of assistance**

**(a) Federal share**

The Federal share for assistance provided under this subchapter shall be equal to not less than 75 percent of the eligible costs.

**(b) Limit on amount of assistance**

**(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), total assistance provided under this subchapter for a single emergency shall not exceed \$5,000,000.

**(2) Additional assistance**

The limitation described in paragraph (1) may be exceeded when the President determines that--

- (A) continued emergency assistance is immediately required;

(B) there is a continuing and immediate risk to lives, property, public health or safety; and

(C) necessary assistance will not otherwise be provided on a timely basis.

**(3) Report**

Whenever the limitation described in paragraph (1) is exceeded, the President shall report to the Congress on the nature and extent of emergency assistance requirements and shall propose additional legislation if necessary.

**UNITED STATES CODE**  
**TITLE 42. THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE**  
**CHAPTER 68--DISASTER RELIEF**  
**SUBCHAPTER IV-B--EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

**{601} 5195. Declaration of policy**

The purpose of this subchapter is to provide a system of emergency preparedness for the protection of life and property in the United States from hazards and to vest responsibility for emergency preparedness jointly in the Federal Government and the States and their political subdivisions. The Congress recognizes that the organizational structure established jointly by the Federal Government and the States and their political subdivisions for emergency preparedness purposes can be effectively utilized to provide relief and assistance to people in areas of the United States struck by a hazard. The Federal Government shall provide necessary direction, coordination, and guidance, and shall provide necessary assistance, as authorized in this subchapter so that a comprehensive emergency preparedness system exists for all hazards.

**{602} 5195a. Definitions**

**(a) Definitions**

For purposes of this subchapter only:

**(1) Hazard**

The term "hazard" means an emergency or disaster resulting from--

(A) a natural disaster; or

(B) an accidental or man-caused event.

## **(2) Natural disaster**

The term "natural disaster" means any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, or other catastrophe in any part of the United States which causes, or which may cause, substantial damage or injury to civilian property or persons.

## **(3) Emergency preparedness**

The term "emergency preparedness" means all those activities and measures designed or undertaken to prepare for or minimize the effects of a hazard upon the civilian population, to deal with the immediate emergency conditions which would be created by the hazard, and to effectuate emergency repairs to, or the emergency restoration of, vital utilities and facilities destroyed or damaged by the hazard. Such term includes the following:

**(A)** Measures to be undertaken in preparation for anticipated hazards (including the establishment of appropriate organizations, operational plans, and supporting agreements, the recruitment and training of personnel, the conduct of research, the procurement and stockpiling of necessary materials and supplies, the provision of suitable warning systems, the construction or preparation of shelters, shelter areas, and control centers, and, when appropriate, the non-military evacuation of the civilian population).

**(B)** Measures to be undertaken during a hazard (including the enforcement of passive defense regulations prescribed by duly established military or civil authorities, the evacuation of personnel to shelter areas, the control of traffic and panic, and the control and use of lighting and civil communications).

**(C)** Measures to be undertaken following a hazard (including activities for fire fighting, rescue, emergency medical, health and sanitation services, monitoring for specific dangers of special weapons, unexploded bomb reconnaissance, essential debris clearance, emergency welfare measures, and immediately essential emergency repair or restoration of damaged vital facilities).

## **(4) Organizational equipment**

The term "organizational equipment" means equipment determined by the Director to be necessary to an emergency preparedness organization, as distinguished from personal equipment, and of such a type or nature as to require it to be financed in whole or in part by the Federal Government. Such term does not include those items which the local community normally uses in combating local disasters, except when required in unusual quantities dictated by the requirements of the emergency preparedness plans.

## **(5) Materials**

The term "materials" includes raw materials, supplies, medicines, equipment, component parts and technical information and processes necessary for emergency preparedness.



**(6) Facilities**

The term "facilities", except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, includes buildings, shelters, utilities, and land.

**(7) Director**

The term "Director" means the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**(8) Neighboring countries**

The term "neighboring countries" includes Canada and Mexico.

**(9) United States and States**

The terms "United States" and "States" includes the several States, the District of Columbia, and territories and possessions of the United States.

**(10) State**

The term "State" includes interstate emergency preparedness authorities established under section 5196(h) of this title.

**(b) Cross reference**

The terms "national defense" and "defense," as used in the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C.App. 2061 et seq.), includes emergency preparedness activities conducted pursuant to this subchapter.

**{603} 5195b. Administration of subchapter**

This subchapter shall be carried out by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**{611} 5196. Detailed functions of administration**

**(a) In general**

In order to carry out the policy described in section 5195 of this title, the Director shall have the authorities provided in this section.

**(b) Federal emergency response plans and programs**

The Director may prepare Federal response plans and programs for the emergency preparedness of the United States and sponsor and direct such plans and programs. To prepare such plans and

programs and coordinate such plans and programs with State efforts, the Director may request such reports on State plans and operations for emergency preparedness as may be necessary to keep the President, Congress, and the States advised of the status of emergency preparedness in the United States.

**(c) Delegation of emergency preparedness responsibilities**

With the approval of the President, the Director may delegate to other departments and agencies of the Federal Government appropriate emergency preparedness responsibilities and review and coordinate the emergency preparedness activities of the departments and agencies with each other and with the activities of the States and neighboring countries.

**(d) Communications and warnings**

The Director may make appropriate provision for necessary emergency preparedness communications and for dissemination of warnings to the civilian population of a hazard.

**(e) Emergency preparedness measures**

The Director may study and develop emergency preparedness measures designed to afford adequate protection of life and property, including--

- (1)** research and studies as to the best methods of treating the effects of hazards;
- (2)** developing shelter designs and materials for protective covering or construction; and
- (3)** developing equipment or facilities and effecting the standardization thereof to meet emergency preparedness requirements.

**(f) Training programs**

**(1) The Director may--**

**(A)** conduct or arrange, by contract or otherwise, for training programs for the instruction of emergency preparedness officials and other persons in the organization, operation, and techniques of emergency preparedness;

**(B)** conduct or operate schools or including the payment of travel expenses, in accordance with subchapter I of chapter 57 of Title 5, and the Standardized Government Travel Regulations, and per diem allowances, in lieu of subsistence for trainees in attendance or the furnishing of subsistence and quarters for trainees and instructors on terms prescribed by the Director; and

**(C)** provide instructors and training aids as necessary.

**(2)** The terms prescribed by the Director for the payment of travel expenses and per diem allowances authorized by this subsection shall include a provision that such payment shall not exceed one-half of the total cost of such expenses.

**(3)** The Director may lease real property required for the purpose of carrying out this subsection, but may not acquire fee title to property unless specifically authorized by law.

**(g)** Public dissemination of emergency preparedness information

The Director may publicly disseminate appropriate emergency preparedness information by all appropriate means.

**(h)** Interstate emergency preparedness compacts

**(1)** The Director may--

**(A)** assist and encourage the States to negotiate and enter into interstate emergency preparedness compacts;

**(B)** review the terms and conditions of such proposed compacts in order to assist, to the extent feasible, in obtaining uniformity between such compacts and consistency with Federal emergency response plans and programs;

**(C)** assist and coordinate the activities under such compacts;  
and

**(D)** aid and assist in encouraging reciprocal emergency preparedness legislation by the States which will permit the furnishing of mutual aid for emergency preparedness purposes in the event of a hazard which cannot be adequately met or controlled by a State or political subdivision thereof threatened with or experiencing a hazard.

**(2)** A copy of each interstate emergency preparedness compact shall be transmitted promptly to the Senate and the House of Representatives. The consent of Congress is deemed to be granted to each such compact upon the expiration of the 60-day period beginning on the date on which the compact is transmitted to Congress

**(3)** Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as preventing Congress from disapproving, or withdrawing at any time its consent to, any interstate emergency preparedness compact.

**(i)** Materials and facilities

**(1)** The Director may procure by condemnation or otherwise, construct, lease, transport, store, maintain, renovate or distribute materials and facilities for emergency preparedness, with the right to take immediate possession thereof.

(2) Facilities acquired by purchase, donation, or other means of transfer may be occupied, used, and improved for the purposes of this subchapter before the approval of title by the Attorney General as required by section 255 of Title 40.

(3) The Director shall submit to Congress a report, at least quarterly, describing all property acquisitions made pursuant to this subsection.

(4) The Director may lease real property required for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subsection, but shall not acquire fee title to property unless specifically authorized by law.

(5) The Director may procure and maintain under this subsection radiological, chemical, bacteriological, and biological agent monitoring and decontamination devices and distribute such devices by loan or grant to the States for emergency preparedness purposes, under such terms and conditions as the Director shall prescribe.

(j) Financial contributions

(1) The Director may make financial contributions, on the basis of programs or projects approved by the Director, to the States for emergency preparedness purposes, including the procurement, construction, leasing, or renovating of materials and facilities. Such contributions shall be made on such terms or conditions as the Director shall prescribe, including the method of purchase, the quantity, quality, or specifications of the materials or facilities, and such other factors or care or treatment to assure the uniformity, availability, and good condition of such materials or facilities.

(2) No contribution may be made under this subsection for the procurement of land or for the purchase of personal equipment for State or local emergency preparedness workers.

(3) The amounts authorized to be contributed by the Director to each State for organizational equipment shall be equally matched by such State from any source it determines is consistent with its laws.

(4) Financial contributions to the States for shelters and other protective facilities shall be determined by taking the amount of funds appropriated or available to the Director for such facilities in each fiscal year and apportioning such funds among the States in the ratio which the urban population of the critical target areas (as determined by the Director) in each State, at the time of the determination, bears to the total urban population of the critical target areas of all of the States.

(5) The amounts authorized to be contributed by the Director to each State for such shelters and protective facilities shall be equally matched by such State from any source it determines is consistent with its laws and, if not matched within a reasonable time, the Director may reallocate such amounts to other States under the formula described in paragraph (4). The value of any land contributed by any State or political subdivision thereof shall be excluded from the computation of the State share under this subsection.

(6) The amounts paid to any State under this subsection shall be expended solely in carrying out the purposes set forth herein and in accordance with State emergency preparedness programs or projects approved by the Director. The Director shall make no contribution toward the cost of any program or project for the procurement, construction, or leasing of any facility which (A) is intended for use, in whole or in part, for any purpose other than emergency preparedness, and (B) is of such kind that upon completion it will, in the judgment of the Director, be capable of producing sufficient revenue to provide reasonable assurance of the retirement or repayment of such cost; except that (subject to the preceding provisions of this subsection) the Director may make a contribution to any State toward that portion of the cost of the construction, reconstruction, or enlargement of any facility which the Director determines to be directly attributable to the incorporation in such facility of any feature of construction or design not necessary for the principal intended purpose thereof but which is, in the judgment of the Director necessary for the use of such facility for emergency preparedness purposes.

(7) The Director shall submit to Congress a report, at least annually, regarding all contributions made pursuant to this subsection.

(8) All laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors in the performance of construction work financed with the assistance of any contribution of Federal funds made by the Director under this subsection shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar construction in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Act of March 3, 1931 (commonly known as the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to 276a-5)), and every such employee shall receive compensation at a rate not less than one and 1/2 times the basic rate of pay of the employee for all hours worked in any workweek in excess of eight hours in any workday or 40 hours in the workweek, as the case may be. The Director shall make no contribution of Federal funds without first obtaining adequate assurance that these labor standards will be maintained upon the construction work. The Secretary of Labor shall have, with respect to the labor standards specified in this subsection, the authority and functions set forth in Reorganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (5 U.S.C.App.) and section 276c of Title 40.

**(k) Sale or disposal of certain materials and facilities**

The Director may arrange for the sale or disposal of materials and facilities found by the Director to be unnecessary or unsuitable for emergency preparedness purposes in the same manner as provided for excess property under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.). Any funds received as proceeds from the sale or other disposition of such materials and facilities shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

**{612} 5196a. Mutual aid pacts between States and neighboring countries**

The Director shall give all practicable assistance to States in arranging, through the Department of State, mutual emergency preparedness aid between the States and neighboring countries.

**{613} 5196b. Contributions for personnel and administrative expenses**

**(a) General authority**

To further assist in carrying out the purposes of this subchapter, the Director may make financial contributions to the States (including interstate emergency preparedness authorities established pursuant to section 5196(h) of this title) for necessary and essential State and local emergency preparedness personnel and administrative expenses, on the basis of approved plans (which shall be consistent with the Federal emergency response plans for emergency preparedness) for the emergency preparedness of the States. The financial contributions to the States under this section may not exceed one-half of the total cost of such necessary and essential State and local emergency preparedness personnel and administrative expenses.

**(b) Plan requirements**

A plan submitted under this section shall--

(1) provide, pursuant to State law, that the plan shall be in effect in all political subdivisions of the State and be mandatory on them and be administered or supervised by a single State agency;

(2) provide that the State shall share the financial assistance with that provided by the Federal Government under this section from any source determined by it to be consistent with State law;

(3) provide for the development of State and local emergency preparedness operational plans, pursuant to standards approved by the Director;

(4) provide for the employment of a full-time emergency preparedness director, or deputy director, by the State;

(5) provide that the State shall make such reports in such form and content as the Director may require; and

(6) make available to duly authorized representatives of the Director and the Comptroller General, books, records, and papers necessary to conduct audits for the purposes of this section.

**(c) Terms and conditions**

The Director shall establish such other terms and conditions as the Director considers necessary and proper to carry out this section.

**(d) Application of other provisions**

In carrying out this section, the provisions of sections 5196(h) and 5197(h) of this title shall apply.

**(e) Allocation of funds**

For each fiscal year concerned, the Director shall allocate to each State, in accordance with regulations and the total sum appropriated under this subchapter, amounts to be made available to the States for the purposes of this section. Regulations governing allocations to the States under this subsection shall give due regard to (1) the criticality of the areas which may be affected by hazards with respect to the development of the total emergency preparedness readiness of the United States, (2) the relative state of development of emergency preparedness readiness of the State, (3) population, and (4) such other factors as the Director shall prescribe. The Director may reallocate the excess of any allocation not used by a State in a plan submitted under this section. Amounts paid to any State or political subdivision under this section shall be expended solely for the purposes set forth in this section.

**(f) Submission of plan**

If a State fails to submit a plan for approval as required by this section within 60 days after the Director notifies the States of the allocations under this section, the Director may reallocate such funds, or portions thereof, among the other States in such amounts as, in the judgment of the Director, will best assure the adequate development of the emergency preparedness capability of the United States.

**(g) Annual reports**

The Director shall report annually to the Congress all contributions made pursuant to this section.

**{614} 5196c. Requirement for State matching funds for construction of emergency operating centers**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, funds appropriated to carry out this subchapter may not be used for the purpose of constructing emergency operating centers (or similar facilities) in any State unless such State matches in an equal amount the amount made available to such State under this subchapter for such purpose.

**{615} 5196d. Use of funds to prepare for and respond to hazards**

Funds made available to the States under this subchapter may be used by the States for the purposes of preparing for hazards and providing emergency Assistance in response to hazards. Regulations prescribed to carry out this Section shall authorize the use of emergency preparedness personnel, materials, And facilities supported in whole or in part through contributions under this Subchapter for emergency preparedness activities and measures related to Hazards.

## **{621} 5197. Administrative authority**

### **(a) In general**

For the purpose of carrying out the powers and duties assigned to the Director under this subchapter, the Director may exercise the administrative authorities provided under this section.

### **(b) Advisory personnel**

(1) The Director may employ not more than 100 part-time or temporary advisory personnel (including not to exceed 25 subjects of the United Kingdom or citizens of Canada) as the Director considers to be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this subchapter.

(2) Persons holding other offices or positions under the United States for which they receive compensation, while serving as advisory personnel, shall receive no additional compensation for such service. Other part-time or temporary advisory personnel so employed may serve without compensation or may receive compensation at a rate not to exceed \$180 for each day of service, plus authorized subsistence and travel, as determined by the Director.

### **(c) Services of other agency personnel and volunteers**

The Director may--

(1) use the services of Federal agencies and, with the consent of any State or local government, accept and use the services of State and local agencies;

(2) establish and use such regional and other offices as may be necessary; and

(3) use such voluntary and uncompensated services by individuals or organizations as may from time to time be needed.

### **(d) Gifts**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director may accept gifts of supplies, equipment, and facilities and may use or distribute such gifts for emergency preparedness purposes in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter.

### **(e) Reimbursement**

The Director may reimburse any Federal agency for any of its expenditures or for compensation of its personnel and use or consumption of its materials and facilities under this subchapter to the extent funds are available.



**(f) Printing**

The Director may purchase such printing, binding, and blank-book work from public, commercial, or private printing establishments or binderies as the Director considers necessary upon orders placed by the Public Printer or upon waivers issued in accordance with section 504 of Title 44.

**(g) Rules and regulations**

The Director may prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper to carry out any of the provisions of this subchapter and perform any of the powers and duties provided by this subchapter. The Director may perform any of the powers and duties provided by this subchapter through or with the aid of such officials of the Federal Emergency Management Agency as the Director may designate.

**(h) Failure to expend contributions correctly**

**(1)** When, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing to the State or other person involved, the Director finds that there is a failure to expend funds in accordance with the regulations, terms, and conditions established under this subchapter for approved emergency preparedness plans, programs, or projects, the Director may notify such State or person that further payments will not be made to the State or person from appropriations under this subchapter (or from funds otherwise available for the purposes of this subchapter for any approved plan, program, or project with respect to which there is such failure to comply) until the Director is satisfied that there will no longer be any such failure.

**(2)** Until so satisfied, the Director shall either withhold the payment of any financial contribution to such State or person or limit payments to those programs or projects with respect to which there is substantial compliance with the regulations, terms, and conditions governing plans, programs, or projects hereunder.

**(3)** As used in this subsection, the term "person" means the political subdivision of any State or combination or group thereof or any person, corporation, association, or other entity of any nature whatsoever, including instrumentalities of States and political subdivisions.

**{ 622} 5197a. Security regulations**

**(a) Establishment**

The Director shall establish such security requirements and safeguards, including restrictions with respect to access to information and property as the Director considers necessary.

**(b) Limitations on employee access to information**

No employee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall be permitted to have access to information or property with respect to which access restrictions have been established under this section, until it shall have been determined that no information is contained in the files of the

Federal Bureau of Investigation or any other investigative agency of the Government indicating that such employee is of questionable loyalty or reliability for security purposes, or if any such information is so disclosed, until the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall have conducted a full field investigation concerning such person and a report thereon shall have been evaluated in writing by the Director.

**(c) National security positions**

No employee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall occupy any position determined by the Director to be of critical importance from the standpoint of national security until a full field investigation concerning such employee shall have been conducted by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and a report thereon shall have been evaluated in writing by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In the event such full field investigation by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management develops any data reflecting that such applicant for a position of critical importance is of questionable loyalty or reliability for security purposes, or if the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for any other reason considers it to be advisable, such investigation shall be discontinued and a report thereon shall be referred to the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for evaluation in writing. Thereafter, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may refer the matter to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the conduct of a full field investigation by such Bureau. The result of such latter investigation by such Bureau shall be furnished to the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for action.

**(d) Employee oaths**

Each Federal employee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency acting under the authority of this subchapter, except the subjects of the United Kingdom and citizens of Canada specified in section 5197(b) of this title, shall execute the loyalty oath or appointment affidavits prescribed by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management. Each person other than a Federal employee who is appointed to serve in a State or local organization for emergency preparedness shall before entering upon duties, take an oath in writing before a person authorized to administer oaths, which oath shall be substantially as follows:

"I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter."

And I do further swear (or affirm) that I do not advocate, nor am I a member or an affiliate of any organization, group, or combination of persons that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence; and that during such time as I am a member of \_\_\_\_\_ (name of emergency preparedness organization), I will not advocate nor become a member or an affiliate of any organization, group, or combination of persons that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence."

After appointment and qualification for office, the director of emergency preparedness of any State, and any subordinate emergency preparedness officer within such State designated by the director in writing, shall be qualified to administer any such oath within such State under such regulations as the director shall prescribe. Any person who shall be found guilty of having falsely taken such oath shall be punished as provided in section 1621 of Title 18.

**{ 623} 5197b. Use of existing facilities**

In performing duties under this subchapter, the Director--

(1) shall cooperate with the various departments and agencies of the Federal Government;

(2) shall use, to the maximum extent, the existing facilities and resources of the Federal Government and, with their consent, the facilities and resources of the States and political subdivisions thereof, and of other organizations and agencies; and

(3) shall refrain from engaging in any form of activity which would duplicate or parallel activity of any other Federal department or agency unless the Director, with the written approval of the President, shall determine that such duplication is necessary to accomplish the purposes of this subchapter.

**{624} 5197c. Annual report to Congress**

The Director shall annually submit a written report to the President and Congress covering expenditures, contributions, work, and accomplishments of the Federal Emergency Management Agency pursuant to this subchapter, accompanied by such recommendations as the Director considers appropriate.

**{625} 5197d. Applicability of subchapter**

The provisions of this subchapter shall be applicable to the United States, its States, Territories and possessions, and the District of Columbia, and their political subdivisions.

**{626} 5197e. Authorization of appropriations and transfers of funds**

(a) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this subchapter.

(b) Transfer authority

Funds made available for the purposes of this subchapter may be allocated or transferred for any of the purposes of this subchapter, with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, to any agency or government corporation designated to assist in carrying out this

subchapter. Each such allocation or transfer shall be reported in full detail to the Congress within 30 days after such allocation or transfer.

**{627} 5197f. Relation to Atomic Energy Act of 1954**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to alter or modify the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

**{628} 5197g. Federal Bureau of Investigation**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to authorize investigations of espionage, sabotage, or subversive acts by any persons other than personnel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**UNITED STATES CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 42.  
THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE  
CHAPTER 68--DISASTER RELIEF  
SUBCHAPTER V--MISCELLANEOUS**

**{701} 5201. Rules and regulations; acceptance of gifts**

**(a)(1)** The President may prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper to carry out any of the provisions of this chapter, and he may exercise any power or authority conferred on him by any section of this chapter either directly or through such Federal agency or agencies as he may designate.

**(2)** Deadline for payment of assistance

Rules and regulations authorized by paragraph (1) shall provide that payment of any assistance under this chapter to a State shall be completed within 60 days after the date of approval of such assistance.

**(b)** In furtherance of the purposes of this chapter, the President or his delegate may accept and use bequests, gifts, or donations of service, money, or property, real, personal, or mixed, tangible, or intangible. All sums received under this subsection shall be deposited in a separate fund on the books of the Treasury and shall be available for expenditure upon the certification of the President or his delegate. At the request of the President or his delegate, the Secretary of the Treasury may invest and reinvest excess monies in the fund. Such investments shall be in public debt securities with maturities suitable for the needs of the fund and shall bear interest at rates determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into consideration current market yields on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States of comparable maturities. The interest on such investments shall be credited to, and form a part of, the fund.

## **5202. Repealed.**

Pub.L. 100-707, Title I, 108(c), Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4708

## **5203. Excess disaster assistance payments as budgetary emergency requirements**

Beginning in fiscal year 1993, and in each year thereafter, notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts appropriated for disaster assistance payments under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) that are in excess of either the historical annual average obligation of \$320,000,000, or the amount submitted in the President's initial budget request, whichever is lower, shall be considered as "emergency requirements" pursuant to section 901(b)(2)(D) of Title 2, and such amounts shall hereafter be so designated.

## **5204. Insular areas disaster survival and recovery;**

### **definitions**

As used in sections 5204 to 5204c of this title--

(1) the term "insular area" means any of the following: American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Marshall Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and the Virgin Islands;

(2) the term "disaster" means a declaration of a major disaster by the President after September 1, 1989, pursuant to section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170); and

(3) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

### **5204a. Authorization of appropriations for insular areas**

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to--

(1) reconstruct essential public facilities damaged by disasters in the insular areas that occurred prior to February 24, 1992; and

(2) enhance the survivability of essential public facilities in the event of disasters in the insular areas,

except that with respect to the disaster declared by the President in the case of Hurricane Hugo, September 1989, amounts for any fiscal year shall not exceed 25 percent of the estimated aggregate amount of grants to be made under sections 403 and 406 of The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b, 5172) for such disaster. Such sums shall remain available until expended.

#### **5204b. Technical assistance for insular areas**

##### **(a) Presidential assessment of response capability ; recovery plans**

Upon the declaration by the President of a disaster in an insular area, the President, acting through the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall assess, in cooperation with the Secretary and chief executive of such insular area, the capability of the insular government to respond to the disaster, including the capability to assess damage; coordinate activities with Federal agencies, particularly the Federal Emergency Management Agency; develop recovery plans, including recommendations for enhancing the survivability of essential infrastructure; negotiate and manage reconstruction contracts; and prevent the misuse of funds. If the President finds that the insular government lacks any of these or other capabilities essential to the recovery effort, then the President shall provide technical assistance to the insular area which the President deems necessary for the recovery effort.

##### **(b) Report to Congress**

One year following the declaration by the President of a disaster in an insular area, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall submit to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs a report on the status of the recovery effort, including an audit of Federal funds expended in the recovery effort and recommendations on how to improve public health and safety, survivability of infrastructure, recovery efforts, and effective use of funds in the event of future disasters.

#### **5204c. Hazard mitigation for insular areas**

The total of contributions under the last sentence of section 404 of The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c) for the insular areas shall not exceed 10 percent of the estimated aggregate amounts of grants to be made under sections 403, 406, 407, 408, and 411 of such Act [42 U.S.C. 5170b, 5172, 5173, 5174, and 5178] for any disaster: Provided, That the President shall require a 50 percent local match for assistance in excess of 10 percent of the estimated aggregate amount of grants to be made under section 406 of such Act [42 U.S.C. 5172] for any disaster.